



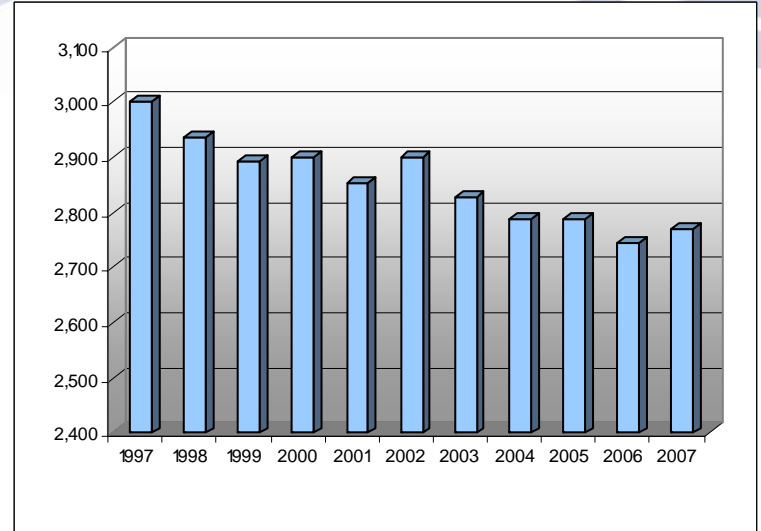
Butte County

October 2008

Work Force Trends

Population

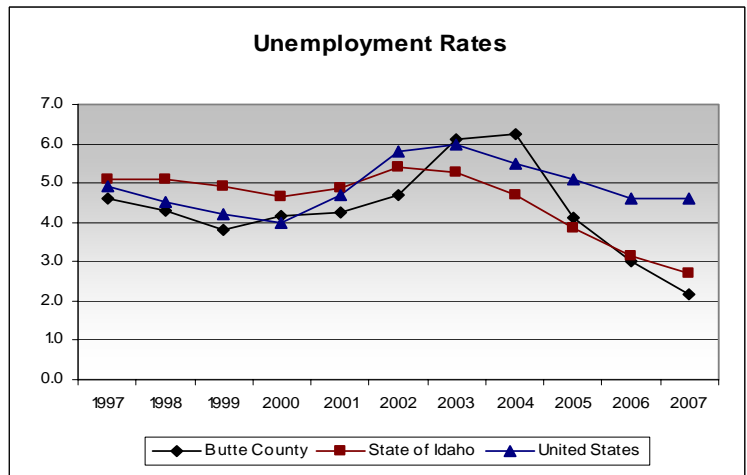
Butte County, one of the smallest in the state, had 323 fewer people in 2007 than in 1997. Currently at a population of 2,771, the county has been declining since its peak in 1997 with the exception of 2002. Significant layoffs at the Idaho National Laboratory and the closure of mines in neighboring Lemhi and Custer counties took their toll. Still, the county is committed to economic development and a long-range plan for stability. The county is focusing on serving tourists who travel through to destinations like Craters of the Moon National Monument and Sun Valley. The INL is located about 12 miles from Arco, the county seat, and although the majority of the more than 7,000 laboratory employees work at buildings located in the county, only a small percentage live there. The layout of the commuting area is unique, making it a challenge for the county to see much economic gain from the INL employees, but plans for a museum and other attractions are in the works. Arco, the largest city, had a 2007 population of 982.



Labor Force & Employment

Because of population trends and changes in the INL budget and mine closures over the decade, the unemployment rate in Butte County has also bounced around. The 2007 rate is 2.4 percentage points lower than it was in 1997. This is the lowest it has been for the decade and it is now lower than the state rate. It now has one of the state's lower rates.

As seen on the pie graph on page two, 82.1 percent of the county's jobs are in professional and business services, far exceeding any other industry. Most of those jobs are at INL facilities. Government is a stable industry that includes small offices of several federal agencies along with county and school workers. Education and health along with trade are also stable industries.

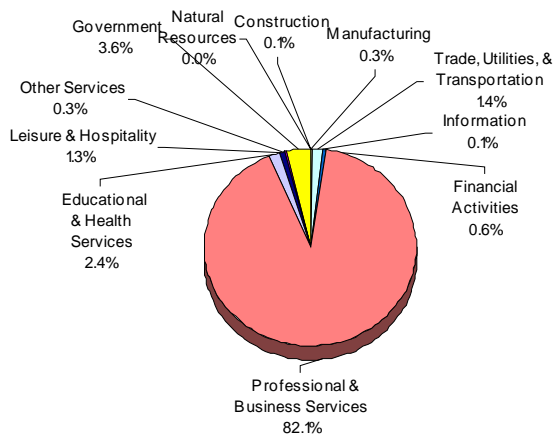


Construction can fluctuate with large building projects at the INL. The county is working on business startups with an incubation center in Arco and the Lost River Economic Development group working for both Mackay and Arco. Tourism is an economic factor in the county with the influx of visitors to Craters of the Moon National Monument. A museum showcasing the history of the INL and the nuclear industry is in the works.

Labor Force	Sep 2007	Sep 2008
Civilian Labor Force	1,445	1,594
Total Employment	1,420	1,529
Unemployed	25	65
% of Labor Force Unemployed	1.8	4.1
State of Idaho % Unemployed	2.7	5.0
U.S. % Unemployed	4.7	6.1

Labor Force	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Civilian Labor Force	1,636	1,613	1,597	1,462	1,461	1,356	1,313	1,290	1,384	1,418	1,439
Unemployment	75	69	60	61	62	64	80	81	57	43	32
% of Labor Force Unemployed	4.6	4.3	3.8	4.2	4.2	4.7	6.1	6.2	4.1	3.0	2.2
Employment	1,561	1,544	1,537	1,401	1,399	1,292	1,233	1,210	1,327	1,375	1,407

Nonfarm Payroll Jobs for 2007



Covered Employers

Butte County is unique because one of the state's largest employers, the Idaho National Laboratory, is primarily located there. However, most of the workers live in neighboring counties. Covered employment is a count of workers and their wages where the physical location of the facility is, not where the workers live. As a result, the county statistics are somewhat misrepresented. While professional and business services, which are the INL's industrial classification, and construction show very high wages in comparison to the other industries, the data reflects the wages paid to workers who mostly live in other counties. Only about eight percent of Butte County's residents work at the INL.

Major Employers

Battelle Energy Alliance
Bechtel BWXT Idaho, LLC
Bechtel Bettis, Inc.
Butte County School District # 111
CWI
Lost River Hospital

Eastern ID Occupational Wages*	Average Wage
Agricultural Workers	\$8.56
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	\$11.97
Cashiers	\$7.47
Construction Trades Workers	\$16.92
Cooks & Food Preparation Workers	\$8.02
Customer Service Reps	\$11.61
Engineers (All)	\$39.23
Food & Beverage Serving Workers	\$6.80
General Office Clerks	\$10.57
Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	\$13.49
Health Technologists & Technicians	\$16.06
Secretaries & Administrative Asst	\$12.29
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	\$13.97
Waiters/Waitresses	\$6.84

* This wage data represents eastern Idaho (15 counties). Additional Occupational Wage data can be found on the Idaho Department of Labor Web site at lmi.idaho.gov.

Covered Employment & Average Annual Wages Per Job for 1997, 2006, & 2007	1997		2006		2007	
	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages	Average Employment	Average Wages
Total Covered Wages	5,811	\$46,569	5,527	\$68,884	8,405	\$70,507
Agriculture	35	\$15,842	40	\$17,324	40	\$18,734
Mining	*	*	*	*	0	\$0
Construction	91	\$40,582	17	\$36,154	8	\$56,118
Manufacturing	*	*	15	\$44,620	22	\$58,052
Trade, Utilities, & Transportation	140	\$11,691	107	\$15,191	118	\$15,018
Information	*	*	9	\$30,031	*	*
Financial Activities	28	\$13,356	41	\$29,417	46	\$25,844
Professional and Business Services	5,039	\$50,756	4,776	\$75,248	7,645	\$74,556
Educational and Health Services	148	\$17,207	145	\$30,105	148	\$28,442
Leisure and Hospitality	51	\$6,992	79	\$9,577	72	\$11,582
Other Services	15	\$22,709	22	\$27,520	17	\$31,425
Government	253	\$20,434	276	\$38,067	281	\$40,587

Per Capita Income	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Butte County	\$17,313	\$18,811	\$19,315	\$20,603	\$22,615	\$21,131	\$20,894	\$23,669	\$23,514	\$24,472
State of Idaho	\$20,648	\$21,789	\$22,786	\$24,077	\$25,024	\$25,221	\$25,524	\$27,361	\$28,301	\$29,920
United States	\$25,334	\$26,883	\$27,939	\$29,843	\$30,574	\$30,821	\$31,504	\$33,123	\$34,757	\$36,714

Information provided by U.S. Census Bureau



This county is served by the office listed below:
Idaho Department of Labor
1515 E. Lincoln Road
Idaho Falls, ID 83401 Ph: (208) 557-2500

labor.idaho.gov

This publication is produced by Idaho Department of Labor funded at least in part by federal grants from the U. S. Department of Labor.

Costs associated with this specific publication are available by contacting Idaho Department of Labor.

Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer/program. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for TTY Idaho Relay Service.